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THE ST. KITTS MIRACLE PLAY. — In No. XXXV., vol. ix., page 296, at the suggestion of Mr. C. C. Bombaugh, of Baltimore, Md., was pointed out the literary origin of the words given by Mr. A. M. Williams as employed in this play. It would be of interest to obtain information as to the manner in which such maskings are kept up in other British colonies. At the time of the New Year, performances of a character more or less saturnalian were not long ago common in most American cities; the memory of living persons might furnish information. The custom of masking is said here and there to have been extended even to festivals distinctively American, such as Thanksgiving; but I am not aware of any printed report concerning such customs.

W. W. A.

LOCAL MEETINGS AND OTHER NOTICES.

ANNUAL MEETING, 1897. — The Ninth Annual Meeting of the American Folk-Lore Society has been appointed to be held in Baltimore, Md., December 28, 1897.

BOSTON. — *Friday, November 20.* The regular meeting was held at the residence of Drs. Emily and Augusta Pope, 163 Newbury Street. In the absence of Prof. F. W. Putnam, Mr. Dana Estes, Vice-President, presided.

Dr. Daniel G. Brinton, of Philadelphia, had been expected to lecture on "The Psychic Origin of Myths," but owing to a rearrangement of the dates of his lectures in Providence, R. I., was unable to be present. After reading Dr. Brinton's note of explanation, Mr. Estes introduced Mr. W. W. Newell, who read a paper on "The Holy Grail." Mr. Newell gave an account of the earliest forms of the tales connected with the Grail, especially the Perceval of Crestien of Troyes, and the Parzival of Wolfram of Eschenbach. Mr. Newell regarded the stories relating to this theme as literary, not traditional, and was of opinion that they all depended on the poem of Crestien. The Grail, therefore, had never belonged to folk-lore, properly so called, that is, to traditional literature. The form of the legend in which it is connected with Galahad was later, and this personage an invention of the end of the twelfth century.

Friday, December 18. The regular meeting was held at the residence of Mrs. W. B. Kehew, 317 Beacon Street. Professor Putnam presided, and the paper of the evening was given by Mr. Frederick S. Arnold, of Cambridge, on "The Gypsies." Mr. Arnold has carefully studied the Gypsies living in the Eastern States; learned their language, and frequently visited them, staying in camp with them, and observing their customs. In his paper he traced the origin of many of their curious beliefs and sayings. At the close of Mr. Arnold's paper, Miss Charlotte Hawes gave the result of some of her observations of the Gypsies of Hungary, and played some pieces of Gypsy music on the piano. Further musical illustrations of Gypsy music were given by two members of a woman's orchestra on the piano and violin.